

## Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 USIE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05  
PA-02 PRS-01 DHA-02 IO-14 SCS-05 SCA-01 /060 W  
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P 102200Z JUN 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2176  
AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY  
INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO  
AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 4789

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: OVIP, BR (CARTER, ROSALYNN)  
SUBJECT: PRSS PERCEPTIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS ASPECTS OF MRS.  
CARTER'S VISIT

REF: BRASILIA 4742

1. MAJOR DAILIES JUNE 10 RAN OR EXCERPTED UPI REPORT OUT OF WASHINGTON, ATTRIBUTED TO DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL HAD TOLD MRS. CARTER DURING THEIR CONVERSATIONS IN BRASILIA THAT HE IS FIRMLY OPPOSED TO ANY SPILL-OVER FROM THE US HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN INTO THE BRAZILIAN INTERNAL SITUATION. UPI REPORT ALSO NOTED THAT PRESIDENT GEISEL HAD EXPRESSED TO THE FIRST LADY HIS CONCERN WITH COMMUNIST ADVANCES IN THE WORLD, BELIEVING THE US HAD REDUCED ITS RESISTENCE TO SUBVERSION.

2. HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE HAS ALSO BEEN GIVEN TO REACTIONS IN BRAZIL AND IN THE US TO MRS. CARTER'S MEETING JUNE 8 WITH TWO US MISSIONARIES IN RECIFE WHO WERE MISTREATED BY LOCAL POLICE. FRONT PAGE TEASER IN JUNE 10 CORREIO BRAZILIENSE CLAIMED THAT MRS. CARTER'S ACT OF POSING FOR PHTOGRAPHS AT  
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THE US CONSULATE IN RECIFE WITH THE TWO MISSIONARIES OFFENDED "BRAZILIAN DIPLOMATIC SECTORS," PARTICULARLY WHEN IT BECAME KNOWN THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAD PREVIOUSLY APPROVED HER MEETING WITH THEM. REPORT IN O ESTADO DE SAO PAUL BY WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT RUY BARBOSA STATED 60 MILLION AMERICANS HAD WITNESSED ON THEIR TV SCREENS THE TWO MISSIONARIES TALKING TO MRS. CARTER AND DISCUSSING THEIR

MISTREATMENT AT THE HANDS OF BRAZILIAN POLICE. THIS HEAVY IMPACT ON US PUBLIC OPINION, ARTICLE NOTES, WAS FURTHER REINFORCED BY REPORTS OF MRS. CARTER'S MEETING WITH MISSIONARIES CARRIED IN THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST.

3. IN INSIDE COLUMN OF COMMENTARY, CORREIO BRAZILIENSE CLAIMS THAT MEETING WITH MISSIONARIES IN RECIFE CAUSED "PROFOUND IRRITATION" TO THE GOVERNMENT. ARTICLE STATES THAT DIPLOMATIC SOURCES BELIEVE MRS. CARTER "OVERDID THE DOSAGE" BY POSING WITH HE FELLOW CITIZENZ, IN WHAT THEY SAW AS A "REPRISAL" AGAINST THE POLICE ACTION. WHILE THESE SOURCES DOUBT THAT THIS INDIDENT BY ITSELF WILL AGGRAVATE THE DISPUTE BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND BRASILIA, THEY JUDGE THAT IT WILL BE EXPLOITED BY BRAZIL'S ENEMIES AT THE INTERNATIONAL LEVEL TO SHOW TWO MISSIONARIES AS MORE "VICTIMS OF THE BLOODY DICTATORSHIP THAT RULES BRAZIL." SAME DIPLOMATIC SOURCES, ACCORDING TO CORREIO COLUMNIST, BELIEVE INCIDENTS IN RECIFE CAN BE USED AS BASIS FOR NEW PRESSURES AGAINST BRAZIL-FRG NUCLEAR ACCORD, PROVIDING THE BASIS TO ARGUE THAT COUNTRY THAT CANNOT CONTROL ITS POLICE IS NOT A FIT RECIPIENT OF SENSITIVE NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY. TO THIS MUST BE ADDED THE WIDE DISTRIBUTION US NEWS AGENCIES GAVE TO "SHOCKING"PHOTOS OF MRS. CARTER EMBRACING THE POOR OF RECIFE. ARTICLE CONCLUDES BY NOTING THAT THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR MISTREATING MISSIONARIES WILL BE PUNISHED, BUT PUNISHMENT WILL BE DETERMINED BY BRAZIL'S LAWS AND CHRISTIAN SENTIMENTS, WHICH HAVE LITTLE TO DO WITH THE "COMMERCIALIZATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS THAT UNCLASSIFIED

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CARTER AND HIS WIFE HAVE BEEN UNDERTAKING SINCE THEY REACHED THE WHITE HOUSE."

4. IN SAME CONNECTION JORNAL DE BRASILIA CARRIED COMMENTS OF MRS. CARTER'S PRESS SECRETARY MARY HOYT, WHO WAS REPORTED AS BELIEVING THA THE PRESENTATION OF MANIFESTOES TO MRS. CARTER BY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND FAMILIES OF POLITICAL PRISONERS AS WELL AS MRS. CARTER'S MEETING WITH THE US MISSIONAIRES, WOULD NOT HAVE NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS OR BECAOME AN IRRITANT IN THE GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. MRS. HOYT IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT HUMAN RIGHTS ARE UNIVERSAL AND EACH COUNTRY IS INDIVIDUALLY INTERESTED IN THE QUESTION, ADDING HER PERSONAL BELIEF THAT THE EPIDODES THAT OCCURRED IN BRAZIL WILL NOT HAVE ANY INFLUENCE ON RELATIONS WITH THE US. CRIMMINS

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## Message Attributes

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